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PRIORITY

5 OCT 60

PRITY [redacted] HAMB INFO FRAN DIR MUNI CITE BONN 0296 (b)(1) (b)(3)

REF FRAN-6232

1. GLOBKE TOLD [redacted] 5 OCT: (b)(3)

GLOBKE THINKS MERTEN ATTACK IM PRESS COMMUNIST INSPIRED BECAUSE OF HEINEMANN AND POSSER BACKGROUND. THOUGH HE CONCEDES A SHRED OF TRUTH TO CHARGES AGAINST HIM, GLOBKE HAS WRITTEN DENIAL TO "HAMBURGER ECHO" WHICH THEY PUBLISHED. GLOBKE AND ADVISERS UNDECIDED WHETHER TO SUE MERTEN. PROBABLY WON'T BECAUSE EVEN IF SUCCESSFUL INHERENT PUBLICITY WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE; WHILE THERE IS AN ORDER FOR MERTEN'S ARREST OF THE BOOKS, AUTHORITIES INHIBITED BY DOUBLE JEOPARDY ANGLE.$ MERTEN WAS AFTER ALL TRIED AND CONVICTED ON VERY SPECIFIC BILL OF INDICTMENT AND GERMANS HAVE SO FAR NOT UNCOVERED ANY CHARGE NOT RAISED IN GREEK TRIAL. ALSO FILES AND MATERIAL STILL IN GREECE. ENTIRE CASE WAS DISCUSSED BY GERMAN AND GREEK GOVERNMENTS WHEN KARAMANLIS VISITED FEDREP. POLITICALS IMPLICATIONS OF EVDOXOULA/MERTEN RELATION WAS THEN CONSIDERED. FEDREP OFFICIAL BEST INFORMED WHOLE CASE IS RAAB OF FOREIGN OFFICE LEGAL SECTION.

2. ON 4 OCT [redacted] TALKED TO DR. H. STERCKEN, WESTERN EUROPE (b)(3)

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DESK CHIEF IN FEDREP PRESS OFFICE AT A DINNER PARTY. STERCKEND SAID THAT HE KNEW MERTEN PERSONALLY AND THAT FEDREP GOVT HAD KNOWN OF CASE FOR LONG TIME. STERCKEN SAID THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY SEEN PHOTOGRAPH DEPICTING KARAMANLIS MERTEN AND EVDOXOULA AND SAID MERTEN HAD SEVERAL OTHER SIMILAR PHOTOGRAPHS. ALSO STATED THAT MERTEN HAD LETTERS TO AND FROM KARAMANLIS WHICH DID IN STERCKEN'S OPINION NOT INCRIMINATE KARAMANLIS SINCE DID NOT INDICATE KARAMANLIS DIRECTLY BENEFITED MATERIALLY THROUGH THE GERMANS.

3. SINCE STERCKEN CLEARLY SYMPATHETIC GREEK GOVT SIDE, SUGGEST [redacted] APPROACH HIM AFTER HE HAS FINISHED IN HAMBURG. EXPECT BY THEN [redacted] WILL GET MUCH MORE DETAIL FROM HIM OR RAAB THAN [redacted] COULD ELICIT DURING DINNER. (b)(3) (b)(3) (b)(3)

4. [redacted] REPORTED 4 OCT HE LEARNED FROM BONN SPIEGEL OFFICE THAT MERTEN STICKING TO HIS STORY. THEY SAID MERTEN HAD SOME TIME AGO OFFERED STORY TO "DIE WELT" WHICH REJECTED PUBLICATION AFTER CHECKING WITH FOREIGN OFFICE. MERTEN THEN WENT TO "HAMBURGER ECHO". MERTEN APPARENTLY FEELS GREEK AND GERMAN GOVTS IN CAHOOTS AND OBSTRUCTING HIS EFFORTS CLEAR HIMSELF IN TRIALS IN GREECE AND GERMANY. SPIEGEL STAFFERS ADDED MERTEN ACCOUNT ON GLOBKE FACTUAL. (b)(3)

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